

Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SAI-01 SAM-01 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /085 W

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R 070003Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 951

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 1053

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED SOVIET REPRESENTATION IN PNG

1. UK HICOM BAKER TOLD ME OCTOBER 4 THAT SOVIETS HAD PROPOSED TO DFRT THAT A SOVIET EMBASSY BE ESTABLISHED IN PORT MORESBY HEADED BY A CHARGE WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN CANBERRA ACCREDITED HERE. DFRT DOES NOT WANT A SOVIET EMBASSY HERE, BAKER SAID, AND THIS WAS ONE OF THE FACTORS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PNG POLICY REFUSING THE DUAL ACCREDITATION OF AMBASSADORS IN CANBERRA TO PORT MORESBY.

2. BAKER SAID, AND I AGREE, THAT SOVS WILL PROBABLY PROPOSE ACCREDITING THEIR AMBASSADOR IN MANILA OR JAKARTA OR ELSEWHERE TO PORT MORESBY, AND THEN THE GPNG WILL HAVE TO BITE THE BULLET. IT WILL HAVE TO PERMIT THE OPENING OF THE SOV EMB OR ELSE FIND A NEW EXCUSE FOR REFUSING TO DO SO.

3. BAKER SAID HE LEARNED ABOUT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL WHEN DISCUSSING THE ACCREDITATION OF THE UK MILATT HERE. THE GPNG HAS REFUSED TO ACCREDIT THE UK MILATT RESIDENT IN CANBERRA, AND MADE CLEAR TO BAKER THAT THEIR CONCERN ABOUT SETTING A PRECEDENT FOR THE
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ACCREDITATION OF SOVIET PERSONNEL RESIDENT IN CANBERRA

WAS ONE CONSIDERATION IN REFUSING TO ACCREDIT THE
UK MILATT.

4. ACCORDING TO BAKER, DFRT ASSURED HIM THAT PNG WOULD
WELCOME A RESIDENT UK MILATT, BUT BAKER POINTED OUT THAT THE
EXPENSE AND THE FACT THAT IT WOULD ONLY BE A PART TIME JOB
MAKE SUCH AN ASSIGNMENT UNLIKELY.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD THAT PRIME MINISTER SOMARE
IS MUCH OPPOSED TO HAVING THE SOVIETS HERE, AND WAS
EVEN OPPOSED TO INVITING THEM TO THE INDEPENDENCE
CELEBRATIONS. THEY WERE INVITED, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY
AT THE INSISTENCE OF DFRT WHICH PRESUMABLY SAW THE
IMPLICATIONS OF INVITING THE U.S., THE CHINESE, AND THE
JAPANESE, BUT NOT THE SOVIETS. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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